

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 INT-05 TRSE-00 AF-10
ARA-14 EA-09 NEA-10 DODE-00 OES-07 GSA-02 OMB-01
OIC-02 ITC-01 FRB-01 SP-02 USIA-15 AID-05 NSC-05
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOR: GEORGE THIGPEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ITC

SUBJECT: ITC'S FUTURE WORK PROGRAM

1. AT THE SIXTH SESSION,THE US DEL HAD INTENDED TO REQUEST COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF ITS FUTURE WORK PROGRAM. UNFORTUNATELY, SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF THE WORK PROGRAM WAS PRECLUDED BY THE DEBATE ON FLOOR AND CEILING PRICES. THE US, HOWEVER, CONTINUES TO BELIEVE IT VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE ITC SECRETARIAT AND ITS COMMITTEES EXPAND AND IMPROVE THEIR WORK PROGRAMS SO THE COUNCIL MAY BE BETTER INFORMED WHEN MAKING DECISIONS CONCERNING THE BUFFER STOCK PRICE RANGE AND THE OTHER ECONOMIC PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT.

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2. ACCORDINGLY, PLEASE CONTACT ITC EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN LAI TO ADVISE HIM THAT THE US WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE SECRETARIAT AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES BEGIN IMPLEMENTING THOSE SUGGESTIONS OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPHS 62, 63, 77, 78 AND 98 OF THE EPRP'S REPORT TO COUNCIL (TIN COUNCIL NO. 80/EPRP NO. 10) AND WOULD LIKE A REPORT OF THE PROGRESS OF SUCH IMPLEMENTATION AT THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

3. WITH REFERENCE TO THE EPRP'S SUGGESTIONS ON THE WORK PROGRAM, THE USG IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN: A) FURTHER WORK ON CAPITAL EXPENDITURES IN TIN MINING, INCLUDING

INFORMATION ON THE COST OF NEW INVESTMENT IN THE INDUSTRY. B) STUDY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL POLICIES OF PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES WHICH AFFECT INVESTMENT AND THE POSSIBLE STEPS WHICH COULD BE TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL AS WELL AS MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE INVESTMENT IN THE TIN INDUSTRY. C) STUDY ON THE MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK FOR TIN CONSUMPTION WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON 1) NEW APPLICATIONS FOR TIN; 2) TECHNICAL FACTORS AND DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING SUBSTITUTES, AND 3) PRICE AND OTHER FACTORS AFFECTING CONSUMPTION.

4. INASMUCH AS THE COUNCIL AT ITS FIFTH SESSION AGREED THAT UP TO POUND STERLING 15,000 COULD BE USED TO HIRE CONSULTANTS AND EXPERTS, THE US WOULD LIKE THE SECRETARIAT TO CONSIDER HIRING A CONSULTANT OR REPUTABLE COMMODITY RESEARCH FIRM TO UNDERTAKE A PART OR ALL OF THE WORK TO BE DONE UNDER THE ABOVE ITEMS IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT. (WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT ITRI WOULD BE AN ACCEPTABLE CONSULTANT.) SUCH ACTION WOULD BOTH SERVE TO ACT AS A PRECEDENT FOR THE ITC'S FUTURE USE OF CONSULTANTS WHEN APPROPRIATE AND COULD PROVIDE CREDIBLE RESULTS

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IN WHICH BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS WOULD BE CONFIDENT. WERE THE SECRETARIAT TO RECOMMEND THIS COURSE, IT PROBABLY SHOULD BE PUT TO COUNCIL FOR ITS CONSIDERATION AT THE OCTOBER MEETING. IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE A SECRETARIAT PROGRAM ON INVESTMENT, SUCH AS SPONSORING INVESTMENT SYMPOSIA, COULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO HIGHLIGHT NEW INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TIN INDUSTRY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME PIN POINTING THOSE PROBLEM AREAS (E.G. TAXES LICENSING) WHERE ACTION MUST BE TAKEN IF TIN PRODUCTION IS TO BE INCREASED.

5. PLEASE ADVISE THE RESULTS OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH PETER LAI. CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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